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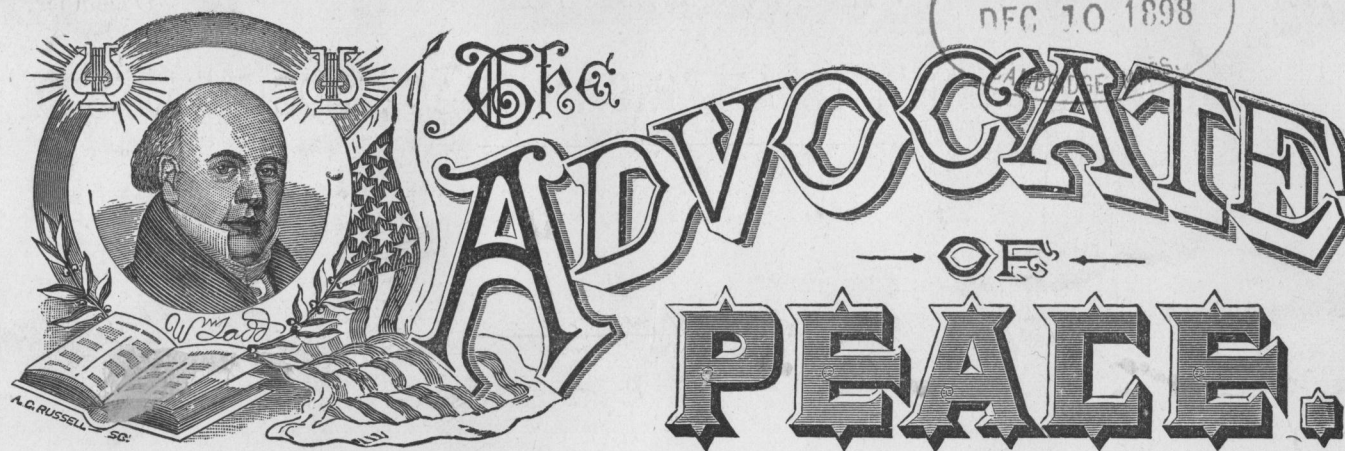
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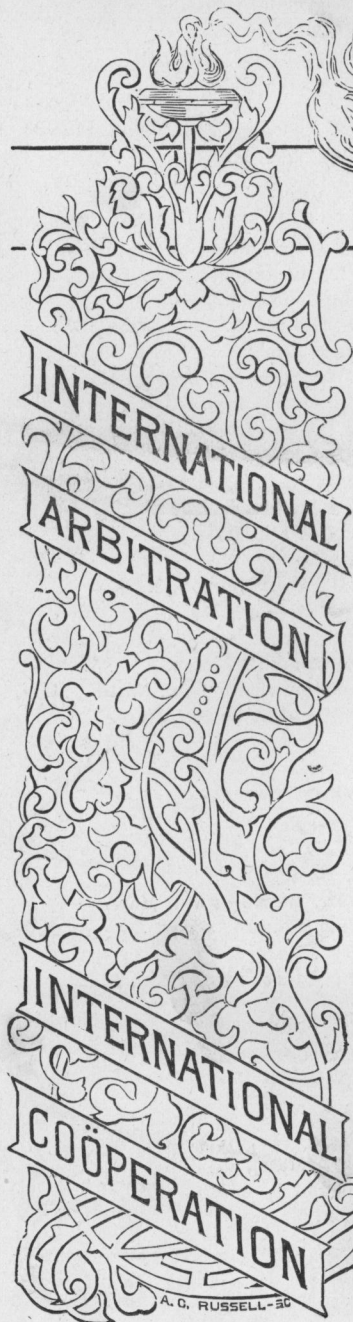
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BOSTON, DECEMBER, 1898.



**I**F a policy of peace clearly answers to the teachings of the gospel; if it is presented to us as preparing the last stage in the progress of human fellowship; if it is more likely, even at the present time, to establish justice than war, what can we do to advance it?

We can avoid and discourage all language in regard to other nations which is in any way inconsistent with the respect due to their position.

We can endeavor to understand their feelings, difficulties, temptations, and not to measure them even unconsciously by the standard established for us by our traditions and beliefs.

We can adopt as a rule for our own temper the memorable clause in Penn's treaty with the Indians, which bound the contracting parties not to believe evil reports of one another.

We can labor with patient and resolute effort to gain judicial impartiality, if we are required to act as judges in our own cause where arbitration is inadmissible.

We can keep our eyes steadily fixed upon the goal of our faith, and move towards it, in quietness and confidence, whenever the way is opened.

BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT.



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# CONSTITUTION

## OF THE

# AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be designated the "AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY."

ART. II. This Society, being founded on the principle that all war is contrary to the spirit of the gospel, shall have for its object to illustrate the inconsistency of war with Christianity, to show its baleful influence on all the great interests of mankind, and to devise means for insuring universal and permanent peace.

ART. III. Persons of every Christian denomination desirous of promoting peace on earth, and good-will towards men, may become members of this Society.

ART. IV. Every annual subscriber of two dollars shall be a member of this Society.

ART. V. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute any person a Life-member.

ART. VI. The chairman of each corresponding committee, the officers and delegates of every auxiliary contributing to the funds of this Society, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in

behalf of the cause, shall be entitled to the privileges of regular members.

ART. VII. All contributors shall be entitled within the year to one-half the amount of their contributions in the publications of the Society.

ART. VIII. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than twenty members of the Society, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Board. All Officers shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed, and the Board of Directors shall have power to fill vacancies in any office of the Society. There shall be an Executive Committee of seven, consisting of the President, Secretary and five Directors to be chosen by the Board, which Committee shall, subject to the Board of Directors, have the entire control of the executive and financial affairs of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee may be called by the President the Secretary or two members of such body. The Society or the Board of Directors may invite persons of well known legal ability to act as Honorary Counsel.

ART. IX. The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, to receive their own and the Treasurer's report, to choose officers, and transact such other business as may come before them.

ART. X. The object of this Society shall never be changed; but the constitution may in other respects be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, or of any ten members of the Society, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

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## The Encouragements of the Year.

The year now closing has tested the faith and the loyalty of the friends of peace. In many respects it has been a year of discouragements. The Far-Eastern question has been distressingly unsettled, and war in the Orient has constantly threatened. Great Britain has just ended one of the bloodiest of her campaigns against native races on her colonial borders. She has been on the verge of hostilities with her great neighbor France, the navies of both countries having been hastily rushed into preparation for war. France and Germany have shown little signs of reconciliation over the question which has for nearly thirty years separated them, and their preparations for war have been maintained with the utmost tension. Great Britain has increased both her navy and her army budgets, and her imperiousness in all quarters of the globe has never been more pronounced nor the irritation against her greater. If Russia has had a change of heart, which

many hope, the effect on her international conduct has not yet had time to appear. More disappointing to the friends of peace than any of these things—for these were all more or less expected—has been the war between the United States and Spain, with the threatening complications which have grown out of it, and the extension of *American militarism* already surely following it.

With all these movements of the war spirit and so much actual war before them, it has not been easy for the advocates of peace to find encouragement, except in the consciousness of the rightness of their cause and the consequent certainty of its ultimate *future* triumph. Not a few whose attachment to the cause has depended almost entirely on the outward evidences of its prosperity have become hopeless and decided that peace effort, in the present condition of the world, is wasted. They have either "fallen away" and gone with the multitude to glorify war or the seed of peace within them has been "choked and become unfruitful."

But to those who look deeply into the movement of events the year has offered some strong encouragements. Many have encouraged themselves that the war of this country with Spain over Cuba, and the war of Anglo-Egypt with the Dervishes, will either work directly, or be overruled, for the promotion of peace. But this is not the encouragement of which we speak. Whatever peace is won in one quarter by war is very apt to be offset or more than counterbalanced by strife and conflict in another unless the movements engendered by war are counteracted by other influences.

The chief encouragement of the year has been the fact that the opponents of war throughout the civilized world have been more numerous and more decided and more outspoken than ever before since civilization began to have a name. The peace associations, now numbering more than four hundred